

Message Text

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53

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

IO-12 NEA-10 GAC-01 TRSE-00 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 RSR-01

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R 241435 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4647

USMISSION BERLIN

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 5869

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, WB

SUBJECT: BUNDESWEHR STUDENTS IN WEST BERLIN
UNIVERSITIES

REF: BERLIN 656

1. UK AND FRENCH REPS CONFIRMED AT TRIPARITE MEETING
ON APRIL 18 THEIR OPPOSITION TO EXTENSION OF LANENDER
AGREEMENT TO WEST BERLIN. THEY ARGUED THAT EVEN THOUGH
THE STUDENTS WOULD BEN ENGAGED IN PURELY CIVILIAN
ACTIVITIES, THEY WOULD STILL BE FULL MEMBERS OF THE
BUNDESWEHR WHILE ENROLLED AT THE UNIVERSITIES. THIS
WOULD BE A DIRECT VILATION OF DEMILITARIZATION
LEGISLATION WHICH WAS STILL ON THE BOOKS. THE UK AND
FRENCH REPS WERE OF THE VIEW THAT EXTENDING PROVISIONS
OF THE LAENDER AGREEMENT TO BERLIN WOULD PROVIDE THE
SOVIETS WITH A HANDY PRETEXT TO CAUSE DIFFICULTIES
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WHEN AND IF DESIRED. THEY RECALLED THAT DEMILITARIZATION WAS ONE SUBJECT ON WHICH THE SOVIETS SEEMED TO HAVE PLACED SPECIAL IMPORTANCE DURING THE BERLIN NEGOTIATIONS.

2. EMBASSY COMMENT: WHILE WE AGREE WITH USBER THAT APPLICATION OF THE LAENDER AGREEMENT WOULD NOT VIOLATE THE INTENT OF DEMILITARIZATION LEGISLATION, WE WOULD TEND TO SHARE THE BRITISH AND FRENCH VIEW THAT ITS IMPLEMENTATION IN BERLIN MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO DEFEND IN THE FACE OF POSSIBLE PROTESTS FROM THE SOVIETS AND GDR. SINCE PROVISIONS OF THE QA RELATING TO FRG- BERLIN TIES ARE BEING INTERPRETED MORE RESTRICTIVELY BY THE SOVIETS THAN OTHER PORTIONS OF THE AGREEMENT, WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS BEST TO KEEP OUR RECORD AS CLEAN AS POSSIBLE IN THIS FIELD. THUS, WHILE WE REALIZE THAT THE ARGUMENTS FAVOR OF EXTENDING THE AGREEMENT ARE VALID, WE WOULD ON BALANCE SUPPORT THE UK AND FRENCH VIEW THAT IT SHOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED IN BERLIN.
HILLENBRAND

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 APR 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN05869
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730447/aaaaitah.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 BERLIN 656
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07-Aug-2001 by worrelsw>; APPROVED <10-Sep-2001 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> srp 980126
Subject: BUNDESWEHR STUDENTS IN WEST BERLIN UNIVERSITIES
TAGS: PGOV, WB
To: BERLIN
EUR
SECSTATE WASHDC INFO LONDON
MOSCOW
PARIS
USNATO
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005